

**CHARLIE BAKER**  
*Governor*



**KARYN POLITO**  
*Lt. Governor*

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**Governor Baker, Transit and Elected Officials Celebrate I-95/Dedham Street  
Corridor Project Groundbreaking**

*\$44 million project to build new I-95 off-ramp and improve options for drivers, cyclists,  
pedestrians and public transit users*

**CANTON** – Governor Charlie Baker, Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack, members of the Massachusetts Legislature, and municipal officials today celebrated the groundbreaking of the \$44 million project to construct a new off-ramp from Interstate 95 onto Dedham Street and make multi-modal improvements to the Dedham Street corridor in Canton, Norwood, and Westwood for cyclists, pedestrians, drivers and users of public transit.

The Baker-Polito Administration's Department of Transportation (MassDOT) will carry out this \$44 million project to widen Dedham Street from two lanes to four lanes, improve three bridges, and construct three new signalized intersections. The project will also construct new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, street lighting, and protected crosswalks in order to accommodate all users of the roadway.

"We are proud to partner with our municipalities to support the construction of this project and improve the commute of pedestrians, cyclists, drivers and public transit users along Dedham Street," **said Governor Baker**. "Our administration will continue to invest in local infrastructure and public transportation to build stronger communities and enhance economic opportunities across the Commonwealth."

"Our administration is committed to strengthening transportation infrastructure and addressing local economic development priorities," **said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito**.

“This project will increase safety and reliability for everyone who is travelling throughout this important region.”

The upgrades on Dedham Street will improve access to nearby MBTA/Amtrak facilities and promote redevelopment in the University Station area and adjacent commercial properties. Additionally, the new I-95 northbound off-ramp to Dedham Street will reduce the number of vehicles entering the I-95/I-93 interchange in order to improve the performance of this major interchange and interstate corridor as well as remove cut-through traffic in Canton neighborhoods.

“We are proud to break ground on this important construction project and continue improving this corridor,” **said Secretary Pollack**. “Through key infrastructure upgrades that offer increased opportunities for all modes of travel, we are continuing to improve accessibility and safety and ensure all our citizens are able to reach the places they need to be and the opportunities that build stronger communities.”

“Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Governor Charlie Baker, Secretary Stephanie Pollack, State Sen. Rush, State Sen. Timilty, State Rep. Galvin, State Rep. McMurtry, and State Rep. Rogers, today’s groundbreaking marks a significant infrastructure investment that will improve the quality of life of the families who live and work in Canton, Norwood, Westwood, and surrounding communities **said Congressman Stephen F. Lynch**. “The reconstruction project will successfully increase access to the commuter rail and Amtrak station, reduce congestion, and improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.”

This project is being carried out by MassDOT’s contractor SPS New England and is expected to be completed in 2022. Traffic access will be maintained on Dedham Street throughout the duration of the project with at least one lane of travel open in each direction. The on-ramp to I-95 southbound is expected to be temporarily closed and re-opened early in the construction process and the new northbound off-ramp from I-95 is expected to be opened when the construction operations on the Dedham Street corridor are completed.

“Improvements to the Dedham Street corridor will connect area residents to economic opportunity by enhancing access to public transportation links and interstate highways,” **said State Senator Walter F. Timilty**. “This infrastructure investment is necessary to ensure drivers, public transit passengers, bicyclists and pedestrians can all utilize our roads and bridges safely and efficiently, resulting in a better quality of life for the community.”

“This is a big moment for transportation in our region. The ramp and expansion will alleviate congestion on local streets, which will help promote economic growth and make commuting a bit easier for residents,” **said State Representative Bill Galvin**. “We have been working for years to get this project off the ground, so it is wonderful to finally break ground.”

"Forty Five years ago, Governor Frank Sargent halted the construction of I-95 through the city of Boston and, in doing so left this new and desperately needed off-ramp undone,” **said State**

**Representative John Rogers.** “Today, eight governors later, I am proud to say that Governor Charlie Baker is the one who got this done. I fully support this new exit, not only because it will enhance economic growth in the Dedham-Westwood region, but, more important to me, it will vastly decongest traffic through Norwood's Neponset Street neighborhoods and its northern Route 1 corridor, which has patiently endured horrific traffic jams for the past half century.”

This project is part of the larger effort to improve the I-95/I-93 interchange and surrounding roadways in Canton, Dedham, Norwood and Westwood. In spring 2014, MassDOT completed construction on the new two lane off-ramp from I-95 northbound to I-93 northbound in order to remove a merge conflict. In spring 2016, MassDOT completed the reconstruction of the intersection of Canton Street with University Ave which included bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, as well as the reconstruction of I-95 southbound Blue Hill Drive off-ramp to improve safety and meet updated highway design standards.

“I’m pleased to join Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito and my colleagues, as well as, the highly competent team at MassDOT in support of infrastructure improvements that will benefit all modes of transportation and access in the area,” **said State Representative Paul McMurtry.** “These significant enhancements will certainly compliment the positive economic growth and redevelopment that has been taking place with the success of University Station, making accessibility safer and more convenient for all residents of the surrounding communities”

“This important construction project will not only improve reliability for motorists, but will increase accessibility for people using alternative modes of transportation including public transit, bicycles or walking,” **said Highway Administrator Thomas J. Tinlin.** “We thank all those who have been involved in the design and planning of this significant project and those who will carry out the construction process, and look forward to seeing the many benefits that this project will offer.”

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